



**CHILEAN SALMON PRODUCER FIORDO BLANCO SIGNS LICENSE
AGREEMENT WITH MARICAL
*FIRST IN CHILE TO ADOPT REVOLUTIONARY "SUPERSMOLT™" TECHNOLOGY***

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Portland, MAINE, USA - MariCal (dba CienciaMar in Chile), a private, marine science company, announced today that it has signed a licensing agreement with Fiordo Blanco S.A. of Puerto Montt, Chile, to use the company's revolutionary SuperSmolt™ technology. SuperSmolt™, developed by MariCal scientists at their Portland, Maine headquarters, makes possible for the first time the transfer of smolt as small as 15 grams directly from fresh to saltwater with no osmotic shock or mortality.

The SuperSmolt™ process uses a precise combination of naturally occurring compounds added to both the feed and the water for a few weeks at the early stage of pre-adult salmon growth. This process results in expanding the "smolt transfer window," greatly reducing mortality and osmotic shock, and allowing a rapid transition towards a vigorous feeding pattern for the smolts. With SuperSmolt™, growers could greatly increase the number of salmon they are able to raise while improving overall fish health resulting in greater productivity and profits.

The initial two-year renewable agreement is MariCal's first with a Latin American salmon producer. "Aquaculture is expected to grow to 50% of world seafood production in the next decade, with Latin America as the largest producer. We are delighted to begin work in Chile with Fiordo Blanco," said MariCal Co-Founder and Chairman H. William Harris, M.D., Ph.D. Fiordo Blanco will initiate the process with at least 1.6 million fish in 2002, during the initial term of the license. As part of the SuperSmolt™ license agreement, MariCal will provide Fiordo Blanco with training and support.

"This agreement culminates months of very successful trials conducted in partnership with Fiordo Blanco," said David Hughes, President of MariCal. "Fifty-thousand smolts were used for this test project, and the results were very encouraging. We envision this technology as the newest major breakthrough to enable the fish farmers to naturally grow more salmon and bring them to market sooner."

Fiordo Blanco S.A. of Puerto Montt, Chile is a subsidiary of Heritage Salmon Inc., the world's 6th largest producer of Atlantic Salmon. "Our trial experience has led us to intensify our commitment with MariCal. We believe that this process will simplify smolt production procedures, ease the stress associated with saltwater entry and stimulate a more positive degree of consistency with respect to vigor in initial feeding at sea," said William A. Drope, Director of Operations, Fiordo Blanco S.A. "We have been pleased with the results from the field trials and look forward to increased productivity and lower costs," said Drope.

Hughes emphasized that the SuperSmolt™ process involves no genetic alteration or manipulation, no artificial hormones, and no drugs. “Although the processes MariCal has developed are innovative, they rely on only natural biological functions and naturally-occurring stimuli,” according to Hughes.

About MariCal

Founded in 1996, MariCal (formerly AquaBio Products Sciences) develops and licenses innovative proprietary solutions that address critical problems facing the world’s aquaculture industry. The Company’s first offering, called SuperSmolt™, is focused on the global salmon farming industry. Through its breakthrough discoveries of a class of extracellular ion receptor proteins, called Calcium Receptors (CaR’s), the Company has isolated the biological “thermostat,” or “master switch” that enables fish and other aquatic organisms to sense and respond to salinity and nutrients in their aquatic environment. Natural and environmentally-friendly, the specific applications developed from these discoveries – which use neither genetic alteration nor the introduction of drugs or hormones – overcome barriers that have limited world aquaculture operations. (Request our SuperSmolt™ and Calcium Receptor (CaR) Fact sheets, or see our web site for more detail.)

MariCal is headquartered in Portland, Maine. For more information visit www.MariCal.biz or www.CienciaMar.biz.

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